CSAR Center for Scientific Anomalies Research

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Oct. 3, 1987

Dr. Andrija Puharich
Route 1, Box 545
Dobson, NC 27017

Dear Dr. Puharich:

It was a great pleasure meeting you during our time at the "Geraldo" show last month. I had intended to write you before now but got bogged down with family matters after I got home.

We watched the show yesterday. Although I think you, Keith, and I came off pretty well, Peter Hurkos was probably disappointed at the outcome.

I am most interested in learning more from you about the government programs you spoke of to me. In particular, you mentioned a Project Penguin between 1948 and 1952 and a "Dr. Rexford Daniels" whose name is not familiar to me. You indicated you would tell me more about these matters.

I would very much like to know more about your current work. Except for occasional stuff I see refered to in the psychotronics publications (mainly ELF-related stuff), I know very little about what you have been doing since your book Beyond Telepathy and your collection The Iceland Papers. Since I am now doing a revision of my article on physics and parapsychology for Omni magazine, I am especially interested in where you have progressed since the Iceland book.

As you probably know, the National Academy of Science will shortly release its evaluation study of parapsychology (and several other areas re human performance improvement) done for the Army Research Institute. I have been asked to do a piece for the Washington Post article on its results and intend to include a good bit of other stuff about military psi involvement. So, whatever you can tell me about not just Project Penguin but more recent stuff would certainly be helpful.

I hope by now you have had a chance to look at Zetetic Scholar. As you can see, I seek to bring proponents and critics together in rational dialogue rather than debate.

I hope to hear from you.

Best wishes, Marcello

Marcello Truzzi

Publications:
CSAR Bulletin
Zetetic Scholar

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Dec. 4, 1987

Andrija Puharich, M.D.
Route 1, Box 545
Dobson, NC 27017

Dear Andrija,

Thanks for your letter of Nov. 24th. It was good to hear from you, and I hope we can remain in touch.

In your letter you refer to me as the "CSICOPS of CSAR." I am not entirely sure what you meant by that. Perhaps you were punning by calling me the "psi-cop" for CSAR, but I fear you may think I am still associated with CSICOP (the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal). If so, I better clear that up. I resigned from CSCIOP (which I did help found and did co-chairman in the beginning) some years ago, mainly over philosophic differences since I saw that they were more interested in debunking than investigating anomaly claims. Unlike CSICOP, I believe in going to the best proponents of such claims rather than after the most sensational and/or most publicized. Thus, rather than attacking someone who made a claim on the "To-night" show or who was written about by the National Enquirer, I believe we should go to the major anomaly-endorsing organizations (e.g., the Parapsycho-logical Association or the International Society for Cryptozoology) and ask them for what they consider their best candidates to investigate. And the approach in investigation must be one of sincere investigation and even hope (that something new might be found) rather than dismissive and abusive. Any-way, since you probably did not see it, I enclose a copy of my FATE interview about my departure from CSICOP. Since then, I have remained on friendly terms with some members of CSICOP, but I have also acted as a whistle-blower about their many excesses so am mistakenly viewed as part of "the enemy" by a number of their Fellows. The problem with being "in the middle," is that both ex-tremes tend to be suspicious of me, the debunkers thinking I am probably a closet-occultist while some proponents think me a wolf in sheep's clothing so the worst kind of critic. (Though the information is also in the issue of Zetetic Scholar I gave you in New York --and I do hope you had a chance to look at the articles in that issue-- I enclose a flyer on CSAR which outlines the purposes of my own rather different and more balanced network of anoma-lists.)

I remain deeply interested in the work you tell me the Navy department has done and continues to do in both psi research and with operational programs. On the Geraldo show, you mentioned being a consultant to "Project Penguin" headed by a "Dr. Rexford Daniels" (am I spelling his name correctly?) between 1948 and 1952, and you said that continuing programs exist. You also said Hurkos has been long involved and continues to be employed by the Navy. So far, my attempts to gain further information through the Freedom of Informa-tion Act and through the National Archives have produced no corroboration of any of this. (The only Project Penguin so far located seems to be an Antarctic tank project, and I presume this is not what you meant.) So, could you provide

me with more information on these matters? I would love to unearth evidence of what you spoke about, but it looks like this will not be possible without your further assistance. So, I hope you will supply me with further details and perhaps some suggestions on where I might find corroboration.

Perhaps I should mention that after we left the Gerald show and I got home, I mailed a packet of articles to Mr. and Mrs. Hurkos as I promised her I would do (this time I sent my communication to them by certified mail, so I know they got it). This packet contained the highly critical articles by Piet Hein Hoebens, who investigated Hurkos's Dutch claims and found them either flatly contradicted by the records or enormously exaggerated. I urged the Hurkoses to respond to these criticisms and offered them space in my journal, Zetetic Scholar to do so (since I have no interest in distorting whatever the truth may be about these matters). So far, I have heard nothing back from the Hurkoses. (Quite frankly, I find it hard to imagine what sort of counter evidence they might produce against the seemingly pretty devestating analysis by Hoebens. Nonetheless, I do hope they eventually decide to publicly respond to Hoebens's criticisms. I learned long ago about such controversies that a side you thought had been "demolished" may come back with brilliant counter arguments that force us to reassess a matter we thought was concluded.

Interesting that you just went to the Soviet Union. Uri Geller recently wrote me that he had just made two trips there. Any connection? Do I correctly perceive that your Prague trip was probably connected with your psychotronic interests?

Yesterday, the National Academy of Sciences had a press conference to release its new report (financed by the Army Research Institute and done by the National Research Council) examining methods for human performance improvement (including a subcommittee report on parapsychology). I am very anxious to read the report (which I expect to be critical of qualitative work but semi-supportive of the quantitative efforts in psi research). I am told that the report is rather positive towards the work on learning acceleration techniques. Have you seen the report yet?

Keep in touch.

Best wishes,

Marcello

Marcello Truzzi

Andrija Puharich, M.D.
Apartado No. 39
Santiago Tianquistenco
Edo. de Mexico
Mexico

Nov. 24, 1987
Rte 1 Box 545
Dobson, NC 27017

Dear Marcello,

Have been on the road for 7 weeks - from Hawaii to Russia, now in Prague, tomorrow I go to Italy - Rome to visit with the Pope. I too enjoyed our meeting. I have not seen the show yet - and have no idea what was edited.

Since you are the CSICOPS of CSAR I thought it would be a good project for you and your colleagues to do the scientific investigation of what the U.S. Navy is doing in ψ warfare. Then I could have the pleasure of grading your papers since I know all the facts covering 40 years. I'm absolutely amazed that none of your colleagues have uncovered what sits there. I wish you all good luck in this quest, and perhaps you will learn how all of our life and lives & major security depends on frail humans.

I will return to the States in mid-December, and be in touch again.

With warm personal regards,

Andrija Puharich

Judge evicts 3 scientists

11/30/94

The Associated Press

DOBSON — Three scientists who live on Josh Reynolds' estate in Surry County will have to find somewhere else to live; a county magistrate has ordered them to leave.

Elizabeth A. Rauscher, William L. Van Bise and Dr. Andrija Puharich had contended that the late Richard J. Reynolds III, a grandson of the founder of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., invited them to live and work at his estate in Devotion. They said he had assured them that they could live there for as long as they liked.

But they could offer no written proof Tuesday at a hearing before Magistrate Steve Dearmin. So he ordered them off.

It usually takes about 30 days to carry out eviction orders. Rauscher said she and Van Bise will appeal the order in Surry County District Court.

Susan Mandell, who cares for Puharich, 77, and also was ordered off the property, said she and Puharich will leave by Dec. 22.

Norwood Robinson, Reynolds' attorney and the executor of his estate, said Reynolds' will requires that he sell the Devotion property and use the money to benefit a foundation that Reynolds started.

He told Dearmin he can't do that while the scientists are living in the two houses on the estate. Robinson said he tried unsuccessfully to reach agreements with the scientists after Reynolds died in June.

1/6/97

Marcello -
I did find the letter. If you don't have Puharich's long interview with Pun. (Nov 173) let me know & I'll copy - Marti

January 5, 1972

My dear Aina.

I write, not knowing if this letter will reach you. If it is permitted, read it, and destroy it. Because you are my wife, I must tell you what happened.

I have been contacted, and continue so each day, by the highest civilization in the universe. The works on earth of these people are what man has always ascribed to God. Uri and I have been chosen to save mankind. Our first job was to prevent WW III which we did. We have other work to do through eternity throughout the universe. I have no choice but to obey. If you were meant to be with me - you would be brought here in an instant.

But I have my orders, and I also have my feelings. It hurts me to know that this letter will arrive on our wedding anniversary. But since you insist on knowing, I must tell you that our marriage is ended. This will be a terrible blow, but you will be helped to accept it. Arigó was one of the servants of my masters, and he was abruptly taken away. I must be faithful to my first calling. Of course, we shall be seeing each other, but only as friends. I do not know if any woman will be given to me again. I pray for your peace. I do remember all the good things. Shalom, shalom, B. J.

P.S. I will remain here until I get orders to go elsewhere.

P.P.S. Do not try to come here - you will only be hurt.

Is Adrija Puharich A Press Agent for Outer Space?

BY MARTIN EBON

Photo: Courtesy Shipi Strang

Puharich (left) with Uri Geller: Under control from extraterrestrial forces?

Dr. Friedbert Karger, the nuclear energy specialist at Germany's prestigious Max Planck Institute, was telling me about his round-the-world tour while we were sitting in my Manhattan office. In describing his visits to energy research centers in Japan and Great Britain, Karger said that Russian studies and those at Princeton, New Jersey, represented the most advanced work on the international scene. Then he switched to impressions he had gathered, first in Germany and more recently in California, of a young Israeli psychic named Uri Geller.

As Karger described it, Geller seemed to practice particularly intensive and repeatable psychokinetic powers, the ability to have the human mind affect physical matter (Geller can bend pieces of metal by sheer willpower). These, and an assortment of other phenomena, indicated that Geller could use telepathic and clairvoyant gifts at will. Karger made a pencil drawing for me that showed how Uri Geller had managed to make an incision on a ring owned by the German physicist, seemingly by sheer mental impact, had then bent the ring and eventually broken it without using physical force.

What Karger described looked like

Occult, July 1975

There have been hundreds of people who have regarded themselves as "chosen ones," selected by higher powers to carry a secret and sacred message to the rest of mankind

the type of phenomena of interest not only to physicists exploring the uncharted areas of their own field, but also to parapsychologists eager to advance the knowledge of psychokinesis (PK), telepathy, clairvoyance and even precognition (prophecy). I could understand why Uri Geller's seemingly effortless PK results might excite researchers. His performances sounded like the supreme answer to a parapsychologist's prayer—replication; i.e., an experiment that can easily be successfully repeated, over and over again, rather than some spectacular, but flash-in-the-pan result which cannot be statistically evaluated.

During the following months, I continued to receive word of Geller's amazing feats. But from Israel, colleagues reported that the young man's reputation had been built entirely on performances of skillful, sleight-of-hand stage magic, completely devoid of extrasensory elements. Naturally, the suspicion arose—once a stage trickster, always a stage trickster? Had Geller merely perfected his sleight-of-hand techniques to a point where he had completely taken in his investigators? Naturally, when a chance arose to observe Uri Geller as part of a small and informal group, I seized the opportunity.

Dr. Andrija Puharich, his then friend and mentor, spoke briefly before Geller entered the room. I had met Puharich over a period of some two decades, particularly during the dozen years I served as administrative secretary of the Parapsychology Foundation, and while Dr. Puharich directed the Round Table Foundation at Glen Cove, Maine. On this particular evening, Andrija Puharich was at his most charming. He told us in an engaging conversational manner how he had encountered Geller in Israel and persuaded him to give up stage work for controlled research in the United States. Puharich spoke of the young man as an essentially simple soul who was mainly interested in cars and girls, and not necessarily in that order.

MIND-BOGGLING CLAIMS

It was all quite chummy, good natured and agreeable. Most of us seemed favorably impressed with Puharich's low-key approach. As a medical doctor, he said with a smile, his scientific training prompted him to be highly skeptical of some of Geller's claims and feats, but that he was willing to deal with the more cosmic implications of it all with an open mind. Good-humoredly, he mentioned some of the more mind-boggling claims put forward by Geller, such as his alleged ability to move heavy objects from place to place by sheer mind power. Might he, indeed, be able to take the camera left by an astronaut on the moon and transport, or teleport it back to Earth? We just nodded and smiled; it was all in good fun; we were among friends.

That was early in 1973. The following year, Puharich's book, *Uri: A Journal of the Mystery of Uri Geller,* was published. In it, the author gave a careful account of his first encounter with Geller, and he told his readers that the two of them (as well as Geller's friend Shipi Strang) had

been under control and instructions from mysterious and erratic extraterrestrial forces. The three of them, he wrote, had been chosen to demonstrate through Geller's gifts that such outer-space influences did, indeed, exist. They had a mission to perform, which included Geller's performances, Puharich's book, and a motion picture.

When I talked to friends about Puharich's book, one of them commented, "I first thought that the whole thing was a giant put-on by Geller and Puharich. Then I realized that Puharich really meant it. That's when I got worried about Puharich." The author anticipated such reactions. He mentioned several times in his book that the experiences he related might easily be regarded as pure hallucinations, as some sort of mental aberrations. What made Puharich's claims particularly hard to swallow were his reports that the tapes on which the instructions from "Spectra," one of the names for the mysterious entities, were recorded, invariably erased themselves. Photos of the UFO-type crafts that Puharich identified with his outer-space influences also disappeared.

The Puharich book reflected the author's long-standing fascination with the relationship between parapsychological phenomena and centers of earthly power (such as governments) and higher powers (such as UFOs). He had earlier taken an interest in experiments undertaken in the United States and the Soviet Union that might utilize such perceptions as telepathy, and he regarded some of the messages received in Israel as warnings that might benefit Israel in its struggle with Arab countries. Puharich had, back in 1952, received a rather Delphic message from an Indian sage which he interpreted as guidance in his life-long search. Many years later, in 1968, while investigating psychic surgery in Brazil, he saw a correlation between visions of UFOs and the healing powers he observed.

CRUCIAL MOMENT

Andrija Puharich encountered Uri Geller at a crucial moment in their respective lives. Puharich was in search of a new and dramatic figure in the world of the psychic, someone who would replace the Brazilian psychic surgeon, known as Arigo. The psychic had died in an auto accident early in 1971. Puharich regarded him as the hope of thousands, perhaps millions of people who looked to him as the witness to higher powers. Arigo had convinced the visiting U.S. physician of his powers, particularly when in 1963, he removed a tumor from Puharich's right forearm. The news of Arigo's death shook Puharich. In words that are identical in his book on Geller and in his epilogue to John G. Fuller's *Arigo: Surgeon of the Rusty Knife* (1974), he wrote: "I was personally despondent. The loss of Arigo to me was as though the sun had gone out; the planet earth and humanity had lost their great luminary. I had suddenly become impoverished. The shock was so deep to me that I decided to go on a 14-day fast and re-examine all my life, to weigh the meaning of Arigo, in life and death."

Puharich felt deeply that he had failed Arigo, that he had not brought the message of the Brazilian to worldwide attention. At the end of his fast, he decided to resign from his duties and positions and to spend two years in full-time research. If there ever were to be another Arigo, Puharich "would not fail the next time." By the spring of 1971, he had set himself two goals: provide a theoretical basis for his research and find people "with great talents" who would participate in such studies.

When Andrija Puharich met Uri Geller in the summer of 1971, he found what he was looking for—and more. Geller, he wrote, "proved to have power over inorganic things equivalent to what Arigo had over organic and living things." His postscript in the Fuller book ends with this appeal: "Today there is a Uri Geller. I am sure there will be other Arigos. It is up to mankind to cease and desist from persecuting these messengers from the higher powers of the universe and to learn the truth from them." Geller became Puharich's *raison d'être*; he justified his life-long search, picked up where Arigo left off, and healed Puharich's despair over the Brazilian's death.

This is a man of the world, who knows the traps of the jungle of the scientific community, particularly those encountered by a practitioner of parapsychology

In turn, Puharich became Geller's guide to fame and fortune, his bridge toward American and European TV cameras, public performances and professional fees. He made no bones about this, and Puharich more than once tells us that Geller's undisguised drive to be famous and make a lot of money irritated him. But then, Puharich's academic-philosophic monologues used to bore the life out of Geller. The Israeli psychic agreed to go along with his American mentor's ideas about laboratory experiments in return for public exposure (which eventually annoyed the scientists at the Stanford Research Institute, as well as former Astronaut Edgar D. Mitchell who had backed research in the "Geller effect" with funds from his young Institute of Noetic Sciences in Palo Alto).

ACADEMIC NECKS

Puharich's outlandish-sounding claims to extraterrestrial backing for his and Geller's work did not go down well with those who had been persuaded to risk their academic necks by doing research with Geller, present their findings at Columbia University in New York and release a film documenting their experiments. While Puharich put his own reputation on the carving table by quoting extraterrestrial ramblings, and while Geller was busy cashing in on his notoriety with tours of Europe and the U.S., SRI and Mitchell began to feel that they had been had.

However, when all is said and done, I find Puharich's position courageous and touching. He describes a scene in his house in Ossining, New York, when he doubted and questioned the gods who seemed to have betrayed him, the extraterrestrials who appeared to have tested, taunted and abandonded him. How could they, he questioned, refuse to have Geller tested scientifically: "I felt that if Uri was to make his way in the world by simple demonstrations he would always be treated like a juggler, a magician." On November 9, 1972, Puharich argued with Geller, urging him to press his extraterrestrial guides to permit scientific research. An angry Geller hurled a sugar bowl at his mentor. Puharich "uttered a curse against the gods," whereupon, "the wind came up around the house, the trees swayed, the house rocked, then a tall grandfather clock was impelled across the entrance hall and smashed into a thousand pieces." The little group was frightened, "waiting for the wrath of heaven to take us away." Geller got another message during the night, saying that

(continued on page 91)

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narwhal tusk passed for alicorn. But, by the late 1700s, few people believed in the unicorn and even fewer wanted to buy alicorns.

In 1827, any remnant of belief was laid to rest with the scientific experiments by Baron Cuvier. He proved that any animal with a cloven hoof could not possibly have a single horn growing from the middle of its forehead, since it would also have a divided frontal bone in its skull. And that, it was thought, was that. The unicorn was dead forever.

However, the myth was so strongly imbedded in legends that it was not going to die without a struggle. In 1900 a group of explorers, disciples of Cuvier, discovered what they thought was the actual unicorn. The skeletal remains of a giant, single-horned animal was found in Siberia. Again, there was a whisper of belief in the old legend. But soon this was quieted by the explanation that the bones they found were from an extinct type of rhinoceros. For 30 years the unicorn was put in the same category as Pegasus and the Centuar—pure myth.

But it reared its single-horned head in 1933 when an American biologist, Dr. W. Franklin Dove created a unicorn. Admittedly, it was an artificial one. He took a day-old calf, trimmed off its horn buds, and transplanted them together on the seam of the frontal bones where, according to Cuvier's theory, they could not grow. But they did grow into a single, immensely strong horn which the calf used "as a prow to pass under fences and barriers in his path, or as a forward thrusting bayonet in his attacks," as Dr. Dove reported in the *Scientific Monthly*. Yet the calf-turned-unicorn was gentle, "true in spirit as in horn to its prototype."

Of course, Dr. Dove's experiments were never intended to resurrect belief in the unicorn and to modern man the unicorn is merely a mythical beast. But, in the back of the mind, where our imagination creates images of a powerful stallion-like creature, raising its magnificent horn towards the sky or gently resting it in a virgin's lap, there is just that little shadow of a doubt.

ANDRIJA PUHARICH

(continued from page 35)

Puharich could tell all in a book, and he "thanked God for the mercy shown a brash fool."

Of the two, I am a good deal more puzzled by Puharich than Geller. To begin with, as I said before, I have seen Puharich over the years in other places and other settings. He has medical training, has been a practicing physician, and is an inventor of devices designed to aid hearing. Andrija Puharich is a three-dimensional human being, a man with several ex-wives, mistresses and numerous children. He has lived on the California coast, in Maine and close to New York City, and he did his original studies in Chicago. To a degree, this is a man of the world, who knows the traps in the jungle of the scientific community, particularly those encountered by a practitioner of parapsychology.

Puharich explained that when he began to study Geller in August, 1971, he set up "physicalist hypotheses." But "when in the course of routine hypnosis experiments with Uri Geller a voice appeared from, or near him, which announced itself as a representative of an extraterrestrial power," he changed his mind. These voices were supplemented by others, so that he came to differentiate between the various communicators as follows:

"1. Robot-computers aboard various spacecraft with various identifying names such as Rhombus 4-D, Spectra, etc. The voice on the tape is distinctly like that of synthesized speech.

"2. Living beings who say they are humanoid in appearance from a

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planet they call Hoova, which exists outside of the Milky Way. The recorded speech has the quality of a human voice.

"3. Living beings who exist millions of light years in the future.

"4. Other beings who do not identify themselves."

The beings from Hoova, whose basic attitude toward man "appears to be benevolent," according to Puharich, have been "observing earth for some 20,000 years." He adds, "Were it not for the tangible reality of Uri Geller, none of this would be believable."

Can we believe Andrija Puharich? He knows, and has said so, that he is straining our credibility. There have been hundreds of people who have hallucinated or otherwise imagined contact with beings from outer space, who have had messianic visions, who have regarded themselves as "chosen ones," selected by higher powers to carry a secret and sacred message to the rest of mankind.

At the same time, much erudite calculations and speculations are taking place in scientific circles. Back in 1971, Russian and American specialists held the first international conference on extraterrestrial civilizations and problems of contact with them. An account of this meeting was published by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1973), edited by Dr. Carl Sagan, director of the Laboratory for Planetary Studies and professor of Astronomy and Space Sciences at Cornell University. The conference was attended by astronomers, biologists, astrophysicists, radiophysicists, electrical engineers, psychologists and others.

With that kind of high-powered scientific attention, can one really say, as Puharich does, that we need to be still more alert to extraterrestrial contact? Puharich, of course, thinks in larger terms. He wants humanity to prepare itself for such contact, get ready "for the impact of knowledge of the existence of an extraterrestrial civilization, especially one with such awesome power." He realizes that most people prefer to think of Uri Geller as "an illusionist," rather than as the demonstrator of extraterrestrial powers. If so, one cannot really blame them. Uri's performances seem far removed from the "awesome power" commanded by his alleged controllers from outer space.

GASLIGHT GHOSTS

(continued from page 78)

As they entered the dining room, "with them came, as a moving column, the pestilential odor."

The strong-minded woman of the house repeatedly attempted to communicate with the presence, begging to know what it wanted on earth so that she could release it. But there was never any response except waves of stench.

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